



The Old Year and the New

A Sermon for New Year's Eve
by
REV. STEPHEN PAULSON

My Times are in Thy hand—Psalm 138.
SAD and solemn are the last hours of the dying year. Only a few months ago a New Year was given unto us, fresh and pure from God's great storehouse of time. It has spent its life upon the earth, and its footprints will never be effaced. The departing year has brought to us God's numberless blessings; it has seen many noble deeds done, and it has seen progress in many departments of life.

The passing of another year must emphasize to every thoughtful person the swift flight of time. Looking backward over the past years of our life they seem to shrink to the size of beads strung around a child's neck. Seeking an image of man's career, the prophet sees his days swifter than a weaver's shuttle; his years swifter than an arrow, curving as it rises to its fall. What is man's life? he asks. It is a cloud dissolving in the sunshine. It is a summer brook swollen by sudden rains, but soon running out and leaving the stones bare again. It is a tale that is soon told.

These last days of the old year urge us to husband well the time that is still given us. To a shrub a year means only a leaf; to the vine, a cluster; to the tree, a new ring of wood. But to a man a year means a large portion of his life which has been used or wasted. Youth often unthinkingly throws all responsibilities on the years to come. To him everything seems possible in the future. Then he thinks he has time for education, then he will practice economy and thrift, let the present be prodigal as it may. The morrow will suffice for the forming of habits and the building of character. So dazed by the future the youth allows the years to slip through his hands, and the result is a man who is an intellectual infant and a moral feebleling. As you pause now and think over the past, you must realize that the morrow holds no harvests which the laborers called yesterday did not sow and cultivate. There was an ancient custom of putting an hourglass into the coffin of the dead to signify that the time had run out—a useless notification to them. Better put the hourglass into the hand of every living man to show him how swiftly the sands of life do flow. But, after all, time is of value only as we make the best use of it.

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not feelings; not in figures on a dial. We should count the time by heart-throbs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.

The old year may hold our many failures, many disappointments, many bitter regrets. The New Year holds out to us hope and promise, for my times are in Thy hand, O Lord. It should comfort us when we think of the brevity of our years, to realize by contrast the length of God's years. We have but a short time to work, and it is well to remember that in order that we may be diligent. But God has a whole eternity in which to work, and it is well to remember that also, so that we may come from God's goodness and impatience at the slow progress of His kingdom among us. Jesus Christ has not ceased from His redemption of the world, nor has God been defeated in His plans for humanity, for the times of men and nations are in His hand.

For most of us the memory of the past is a chamber of discontent. Let therefore the old year bury from sight its story of sin and sorrow and failure. Let there be sincere repentance for the follies of the past, and then let a new man step forth to meet with hope and determination the glad New Year which God desires shall be a Messianic year for every child of earth. When God forgives, He forgives utterly. He casts man's sins "into the depths of the sea." Why then should memory thrust its hooked pole into the sea to dredge the bottom and bring up by the locks some

The Birth of the New Year

pale memory which God has plunged into the ocean of forgetfulness? Man's life is not in the past, but in the days to come, for our times are in His hand.

And how many of us are waiting for the opportunities of the coming year? With how many of us is it the unuttered hope that tomorrow may be free from the sins and the mistakes of yesterday? I pray God that for you it may be so. Your times are in His hand, and let your Father shape the new year for you; let Him rule it, and strive with the help of the Spirit to walk the way of His commandments. "Forgetting the things that are behind, let us press on for the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus."

The passing year also must remind us that there will come a last year for each one of us. Perhaps this coming year is your last. Are you therefore ready to see the curtain rise upon eternity? Are you now ready to hear the midnight cry, and to enter into the marriage supper of the King's Son? Our times are in God's hand, and no man knoweth what day or hour he may be called from his labor. Though we live to be counted among the oldest inhabitants we must depart at last. Others have gone before us and are going every day, and yet we seem so eager to forget our own mortality. Nay, let us rather look forward with anticipation, believing that God will then give us a New Year which shall be without sin and tears and sorrow and pain, where love shall rule, and where happiness shall be complete in the fullest service to our God.

The New Year bells will soon be ringing. Do not fail to make some personal preparations for its coming. Make resolutions for the future on the basis of your experience of the past. Every heart knows its own needs, and its own weaknesses. Be not discouraged by past failures, but say: "Our God earnestly to help to future successes. Take this New Year as a holy gift from a gracious Father and begin to live it carefully and prayerfully. Do not strive to carry the burdens of future months, but live each day as if it were the last and the best. In spite of all the little things we see in the world today, let us believe that the New Year will be a blessed year to all mankind, and let each one of us do our utmost to make it so. May God look upon us all in mercy, and may He let this New Year

Ring out old shapes of foul disease.
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

NEW YEAR BELLS, ET AL.
Chiming, rhyming, overhead,
Ring out the narrow lust of gold;
Dropping, dripping notes of joy
On the noisy throng below—
Sounding music and melody,
Mellow music sinks and swells,
O'er the babel of the lower:
New Year's bells.

Paint and powder, pearls and curls,
Velvet, fur and velvet too;
Plumes and purple and perfume;
Fancy blondes and bold brunettes;
Pump, petals and pins and avails,
Maiden, Madge, Maude and Nellie,
Keeping watch-night merrily:
New Year's bells.

—Cartoons Magazine.

Our Superstitious Vein

Encircling Wreath of Fancy
Bedecks New Year's Day

EVER since the dawn of time the happenings of New Year's day have been said to foretell the luck of the coming months. For there is a vein of superstition in the human race, and all of us share in its delusions. There is no day in the year without its encircling wreath of fancy; this first day of them all is wondrously bedecked. Not even Christmas is so ancient, and so world renowned, and it stands first in the folklore of every language. On New Year's day in ancient Egypt, when as yet the pyramids were unbuild, there were grand processions and smoking sacrifices. In Sparta it was celebrated by the consecration of youths to military service.

Among the Saxons and old Germans were great rejoicings, feasting and carousings on this day, and the wasail bowl passed merrily around. This was a great vessel filled with ale, sugar, fruits, nutmeg and spices. There was enough for the whole community and the great bowl ran freely all day.

In all countries there have been charms and devotions peculiar to the opening year, for a desire to peer into the future is really common to us all, no matter how we affect to deride the idea. The Bible charm was one familiar to our grandfathers, and was used by religious people even down to the present generation. It is solemn and interesting, and well worth recording. "When the clock strikes 12 on New Year's eve, pick up your Bible and open it at random, and walking backward to a table, lay the book down, face open, upon it. Turn around three times, take up the book, read the verse upon which your thumb falls. It will tell your fate for the coming year. For instance, if it should be: "And He will love thee, and bless thee and multiply thee," or "If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth," we expect a very pleasant year. But conceive the horror of one who should open to these words: "So he died, and was gathered to his fathers," or "In hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment."

In Switzerland the maiden borrows her mother's wedding ring, ties it with a hair from her own head, then suspends it just over the rim of a teacup, all the while counting rapidly the years of her own age. Of course the hair-bung ring trembles and knocks against the cup, and each little tap counts one year before she will wed; so she must count very fast, or be shocked at the number of taps. In Norway the kind of fish caught on the day foretells "fisherman's luck" for the coming year. In rural New England almost every locality has some special charm of fortune-telling of its own for this day of fate. The custom of sending cards and gifts on the first day of the year is so ancient that the historian of Manners and Customs can find no beginning. The Chinese have used cards for thousands of years, and the queerest thing in the world is a Chinese New Year's card. It gives all the complimentary titles of the owner, and is almost as large as a wall map. In olden times it was the custom for tenants to give New Year's gifts to their landlords, and every loyal subject owed a gift to his sovereign. We read how good Queen Elizabeth such a favorite that her gifts were marvels of taste and extravagance. In our country we give presents on Christmas day, but in France they are reserved for the first of the year.

NEW YEAR'S IN AMERICA.
New Year calls in America, once so popular, are now about obsolete, though attempts at their revival are frequently made. Midnight services in churches and home "watch" parties, the ringing of bells and blowing of whistles are present widespread forms of helping to usher in the new day of the new year. And the burden of everyone's song is, "A very happy New Year to you, and may you have many more!"

Major General Nagski expressed regret at the signs of unrest among the troops, but said the number of men who exhibit such signs were few.

"However," he said, "it appears true that the number is growing among both the men and officers, mostly those on the reserve list, who are becoming tainted with the hideous doctrine of the Omoto-kyo."

Twins of All Sizes.
Newcastle, Ind.—A picnic for twins was held at the home of Harry Re-

HOUSTON WARNS OF DEFICIENCY

Secretary Says New Sources of Revenue Must Be Found to Aid Treasury.

SPEAKS ON SOLDIERS' BONUS

Tells Senate Finance Committee That the Government Must Not Incur New Burdens During the Next Fiscal Year.

Washington, Dec. 24.—A gross deficiency in national fiscal transactions of \$2,100,000,000 this fiscal year and \$1,500,000,000 the next fiscal year was forecast by Secretary Houston in speaking on the soldiers' bonus bill. He said the government must find new sources of revenue and incur no new burdens.

Considered aside from the public debt, Mr. Houston said, the ordinary receipts for this year should exceed ordinary expenditures by about \$800,000,000, and next year the excess should be \$500,000,000. These sums, however, are inadequate to take care of the interest on the public debt, which is about \$1,200,000,000 annually. Mr. Houston said, as well as the interest on the current floating debt and the total laid aside annually for retiring the public debt.

"We will start the year of 1922-23 with a deficit of \$1,500,000,000," said Mr. Houston. "We face, in addition, the fact that many sources of revenue are declining, so we will have to look around for new sources to tap without placing greater burdens on the treasury."

Asked as to what sources of revenue of the government, the secretary said that the excess profits tax, but that the productivity of higher groups of income taxes was falling off. He cited internal revenue figures showing a steady decline in tax payments by those receiving larger incomes of the country.

Mr. Houston warned, incidentally, against "tampering with the sinking fund." He declared the present arrangement for retiring the great war debt was "sound and workable" and should be adhered to in future.

"When we go to tampering with the sinking fund I believe we are gone," he said. In connection with the requirements, immediate and future, of the treasury, Mr. Houston reiterated his opposition to a revival of the war finance corporation. He declared the war finance corporation would call upon the treasury for payment of the credit of \$386,000,000 it had with the treasury, which would be completely out of balance on a non-recurring period to the extent that the corporation called for money.

The secretary expressed the belief that the solution of the problem of aiding exporters was through private financing rather than through government loans. He said that exports would continue to increase without treasury help.

Asked regarding the status of the government loans to the allied and associated powers, Mr. Houston said the treasury had not yet reached an agreement with them relative to final maturity dates on the nearly \$100,000,000 of loans. Few of them, he added, have paid any interest in actual cash, most of the interest accreted to them being in the form of book adjustments against credit authorized.

The hearing was adjourned until Monday, when Mr. Houston is expected to be asked for a direct expression on the soldier bonus bill.

105 DIE IN PETROGRAD RISING

Many Persons Killed and Injured When Workers Fought Against Soviet Rule.

London, Dec. 24.—A serious labor riot occurred in Petrograd, says a Helsingfors dispatch to the Central News, in which many persons were killed and injured. The riot broke out in the district of the city known as the "Kamenskaya" and 105 laborers were executed, the dispatch adds. The trouble started when the soviet authorities refused the demand of the city laborers for more food and shortening of the working day, which is 16 hours.

NOT TO QUIT GERMANY NOW

No Immediate Withdrawal of United States Troops, Says General Allen.

Paris, Dec. 22.—Withdrawal of American troops from Germany is not being considered at present, Maj. Gen. Henry T. Allen, commander of American forces at Coblenz, is quoted as saying in an interview with the Petit Parisien. This withdrawal was reported as being contemplated in recent dispatches from Brussels.

Duke of Abruzzi on Mission.
Naples, Dec. 27.—The duke of Abruzzi, cousin of King Victor Emmanuel, sailed from here for Magdono, Italian Somaliland, being called to that country in the interest of a company formed to manage farms.

Tammany Leader Summoned.
New York, Dec. 27.—Process servers in the building trust case said they had served a subpoena on John A. McCarthy, former business associate of Charles F. Murphy, Tammany leader, on his return from Philadelphia.

O. H. Peckham, Candy Man, Dies.
St. Louis, Dec. 24.—O. H. Peckham, seventy-five, chairman of the board of directors of the National Candy company, died at his home here from pneumonia. He was president of a sugar refinery in Clinton, Ia.

Fighting Soon Expected.
London, Dec. 24.—Italian government forces commanded by General Cavaglia and Admiral Millo have established a close blockade of Fiume by land and sea, and fighting may be reported at any time.

MOTHER NATURE ANGRY



The top of the mountain which forms the islet of Saseno, ten miles from Avlona, Albania, is reported to have collapsed during a hurricane, burying the harbor and town and killing many persons.

LEAGUE NEEDS U. S.

Lloyd George Says It Will Fail Unless Backed by America.

British Premier Cites Work Already Done by Organization—Urges Disarmament

London, Dec. 23.—David Lloyd George, the prime minister, presiding at a luncheon given in the presence of the British and dominion delegates to the recent League of Nations assembly in Geneva, declared the league would never achieve real progress until all the nations were represented.

There could be no real peace, declared the prime minister, until competition in armaments ceased, and before disarmament was possible all the nations must be in the league, for all must march together.

Mr. Lloyd George said all nations must reach a common agreement not to start again disastrous rivalry in armaments, which must inevitably end in a clash.

The league has already done much, the prime minister asserted. For one thing, it has raised the status of labor throughout the world, and the labor bureau was doing great things. The league's most conspicuous work, he said, probably was the establishment of the international court of justice, which would have a very determining effect on international justice in the future.

No League of Nations, however, could possibly be regarded as complete until the United States was included, Mr. Lloyd George declared.

WAR ON SUNDAY AMUSEMENT

Missouri Organization to Push Bill to Bar "Commercialized" Shows in the State.

St. Louis, Dec. 23.—Legislation prohibiting the operation of moving picture or other theaters, circuses and other forms of "commercialized amusements" in this state on Sunday is being sought by the Lord's Day alliance of Missouri. An attorney, it was announced, has been employed to prepare a bill to that effect for presentation to the state legislature. If not "commercialized," the alliance is not opposed, but encourages, wholesome athletic games, explained Rev. David Reiter, a Presbyterian minister, who is executive secretary of the organization.

QUAKE KILLS 2,000 CHINESE

Twenty-Five Shocks in Nine Hours Laid Cities in Ruins and Demolished Roads.

Shanghai, Dec. 27.—Two thousand deaths have been caused by a terrific earthquake in the Ningpo district of Kiangsu province. There were 25 distinct shocks within the first nine hours after the first tremor. Hourly shocks are continuing. Cities were laid in ruins with great loss of life, and the roads in the region were demolished.

EX-GREEK KING IS BACK

Constantine's Return Home Compared to Napoleon's Return From Elba.

Athens, Dec. 22.—Amid the thunder of cannon, the hum of air circling airplanes and the roaring cheers of a grateful people, Constantine of Greece (deposed as king of the Hellenes by the allies during the World war as pro-German, and recalled to the throne by popular vote) entered Athens.

Submits Trade Pact to Senate.
Washington, Dec. 27.—A commercial treaty with Siam was transmitted to the senate by President Wilson. The executive in another message asked for authority to call a world disarmament congress to meet in Washington.

Greek Premier Quits Post.
Athens, Dec. 27.—Premier Rallis, it is understood, has definitely tendered his resignation as a result of refusal of Admiral Kelly, head of the British naval mission here, to accept the cordon, the Royal order.

British Burn Irish Town.
London, Dec. 23.—A Dublin dispatch says that crown forces burned the village of Ballinacorney, County Longford, as a reprisal for the recent attack on the police barracks there, in which one constable was killed.

Many Face Pay Cut.
Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—The wages of more than 200,000 workers in the textile industry of this city are to be reduced from 10 to 20 per cent in the near future, officers of associations in the trade said.

Suffragist Service February 15.
Washington, Dec. 22.—Jane Addams of Chicago has been designated as chairman of the memorial service to pioneer suffragists with which the national convention of the Woman's party will open here on February 15.

Girl, 16, Dies After Long Sleep.
Milwaukee, Dec. 22.—Helen Look, sixteen years old, died here after lying in a deep sleep for 11 days. All efforts to arouse her from the comatose condition failed. A diagnosis ascribed tuberculosis as the cause.

HOUSE PASSES TARIFF BILL

Measure Would Establish Virtually Prohibitory Custom Duties for Ten Months.

SEEKS TO RELIEVE FARMERS

Vote Stood 196 to 86, With Five Voting Present, and Came After a Bitter Fight Against Measure—Party Lines Obliterated.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The house passed the Emergency tariff bill, designed to relieve American agricultural and live stock industries from the present price depression by establishing virtually prohibitory customs duties for ten months. The vote was 196 to 86.

A political analysis of the vote showed 154 Republicans for the bill and 14 against; 41 Democrats for and 72 against; one Prohibitionist, Randall of California, voted for the bill.

Five voted present. The bill now goes to the senate, where Republican leaders on the finance committee have promised to expedite its consideration, while Democrats plan to exert every effort to block its passage. What President Wilson will do with the bill is problematical. Some of the Democratic leaders expect him to veto it.

The bill was passed by the house in the same form as it was reported out by the ways and means committee. Party lines were obliterated. Leading the Democrats who supported the bill was Representative Gurner of Texas, who will be ranking minority member of the ways and means committee in the next congress. Representatives Madden of Illinois, Bachrach, New Jersey, a member of the ways and means committee, and Snell of New York were prominent among the Republicans opposing the bill.

Representative Treadway of Massachusetts, another Republican member of the ways and means committee, attacked the legislation, but said he would support the farmer the benefit of the doubt and vote for it.

Passage of the bill followed one of the bitterest fights waged in the house in recent years. Though it was apparent from the outset that they were hopelessly in the minority, the opponents stubbornly contested every inch of the way. Knocked down by sheer weight of numbers as they attacked each successive schedule, they came back strong every time.

LYNCH WHITE MAN IN TEXAS

Men Take Alleged Slayer of Policeman From Jail at Fort Worth and Hang Him.

Fort Worth, Tex., Dec. 27.—Tom V. Vickery, a white man held on a charge of murder in connection with the killing of Policeman William C. Couch, was taken from the county jail here shortly after midnight by a mob and hanged. Several shots were fired into his body. Twenty-five masked men entered the jail, overpowered the jailer and his assistant. Opening Vickery's cell the mob removed the prisoner to a grove near the packing house district, and swung him to a tree. Sheriff Smith and Chief of Police Porter, warned anonymously by telephone that Vickery was being hanged, reached the scene shortly after the mob had disbanded.

JOHN D. SUE BY THE U. S.

Government Charges He Falsified Income Tax Returns—Demands \$292,678.

New York, Dec. 22.—The government has brought suit against John D. Rockefeller for \$292,678, charging his income tax report was "incorrect, misleading and false."

The complaint alleges that in his return filed on March 28, 1916, Rockefeller falsified the income tax in part of his income \$50,148, shares of the Prairie Pipe Line company.

JAPAN WITHDRAWS PROTEST

Government Abandons Its Fight on California Antislavery Law, State Department Told.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The Japanese government has advised the State department of its withdrawal of objections to the enactment of the California antislavery law, which was expressly directed against the Japanese. The meaning of this new move by the Japanese government is not known to the California members of congress, and no further light has been thrown on the subject from any other quarter.

D'Annunzio Fights Italy

London, Dec. 27.—Gabriele D'Annunzio has proclaimed that a state of war exists between his Fiume government and Italy and has forbidden the population of Fiume to leave the city, says a Rome dispatch.

To Prosecute Smith Girl

Oklahoma City, Okla., Dec. 27.—Governor Robertson announced here that the state of Oklahoma would aid in the prosecution of Clara Barton Smith, charged with murder of "Jake" L. Hamon.

\$14,000,000 Cut in Pensions

Washington, Dec. 24.—Carrying \$14,000,000 less than appropriated for this year, the annual pension bill was reported out by the house appropriations committee. The total in the bill is \$265,500,000.

Flies 225 Miles in 2:20

Vera Cruz, Dec. 24.—An American airplane driven by Fernando Proat, a Mexican aviator, flew from Mexico City to Vera Cruz, the distance of 222 miles being made in 2 hours and 20 minutes.

Grove Hearing Postponed

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 23.—Hearings on an application for the extradition of Leo J. Grove, federal prohibition officer, and two assistants, set for Tuesday, have been postponed until December 28.

Hardings to Visit Florida.
Washington, Dec. 23.—President-elect and Mrs. Harding will spend the coldest weeks of the winter in Florida, leaving early in the new year and not returning until shortly before March 4.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take
Grove's Laxative
Bromo Quinine
tablets
Be sure its Bromo



E. W. Grove
The genuine bears this signature
30c.

80 Years Old—Was Sick

Now Feels Young After Taking Eatonic for Sour Stomach

"I had sour stomach ever since I had the grip and it bothered me badly. I have taken Eatonic only a week and am much better. Am 80 years old," says Mrs. John Hill.
Eatonic quickly relieves sour stomach, indigestion, heartburn, bloating and distress after eating because it takes up and carries out the excess acidity and gases which cause most stomach ailments. If you have "tried everything" and still suffer, do not give up hope. Eatonic has brought relief to tens of thousands like you. A big box costs but a trifle with your druggist's guarantee.

Girls! Girls!! Clear Your Skin With Cuticura

Scap 25c, Ointment 25c and 50c, Tablets 25c.

SALESMEN Wanted To Sell

Our West Virginia Growth
Turkey Stock. Fine carrying outfit FREE. See Commission Paid Weekly. WRITE for terms. THE GOLD NURSERY CO.
Mason City, W. Va.



KEMP'S BALM Will Stop That Cough

"A few minutes more, Peggy dear, and Daddy will be back with the Kemp's Balm. Then you can go to sleep and forget that horrid old cough."

ABSORBINE STOPS LAMENESS

from a Bone Spavin, Ring Bone, Splint, Curb, Side Bone, or similar troubles and gets horse going sound. It acts mildly but quickly and good results are lasting. Does not blister or remove the hair and horse can be worked. Page 17 in pamphlet with each bottle, tells how. \$2.50 a bottle delivered. Horse Book 9 Free.

ABSORBINE, JR., the antiseptic liniment or ointment, reduces Painful Swelling, Eases Glands, Wens, Bruises, Varicose Veins, Sore Feet, Ailments. Will tell you more if you write. \$1.25 a bottle at dealers. Delivered. Each bottle has its own pamphlet. V. F. YOUNG, Inc., 310 Temple St., Springfield, Mass.

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People prefer pills, provide prompt and proper performance promises. Beecham's Pills are used by people all over the globe and have the largest sale of any medicine in the world!

BEECHAM'S PILLS

American politics consists of the rolling of logs, the pulling of wires and the laying of pipes.

Garfield, Ten, taken regularly, will correct both liver and kidney disorders.—Adv.

Charity for all is likely to verge closely on pity in many cases.

Indigestion produces disagreeable and sometimes alarming symptoms. Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills stimulate the digestive processes to function naturally.—Adv.

Real Indians never use smokeless powder in their pipe of peace.

It takes Congress to settle a strike, but an unruly stomach is subdued by Garfield Tea.—Adv.

Self-restraint is the one remedy to lure the world to sweet repose.

SLOW DEATH

Aches, pains, nervousness, difficulty in urinating, often mean serious disorders. The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid trouble—

GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL

brings quick relief and often ward off deadly diseases. Known as the national remedy of Holland for more than 200 years. All druggists, in three sizes. Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation.

Coughing

Is annoying and harmful. Relieve throat irritation, hacking and get rid of cough, colds and bronchitis at once by taking

PISO'S